

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Like all other broadcast media companies, Sinclair has been granted the privilege of using the public airwaves free of charge. That gift is accompanied by the obligation to serve the public interest. Forced airing of a partisan "documentary" shortly before a close election does not serve the public interest, and should be preemptively stopped.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.